GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2003
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2000
PRODUCTION OF TEA IN NORTH EAST REGION
MONI KUMAR SUBBA

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether tea is the principle commercial crop of Assam and other States in the North East Region;

(b) if so, the annual production of tea in each State of the region during 1998-99, 1999-2000 and the likely yield in 2000-2001 as compared to other tea producing States to the country;

(c) the percentage contribution of North East Region States in the total production of tea of the country; and

(d) the quantum of tea out of total production of North-East Statesexported during the above period and target fixed for exports for 2000-2001?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

(SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2003 TO BE ANSWERED ON 1.12 REGARDING PRODUCTION OF TEA IN NORTH EAST REGION.

Tea is a principle commercial crop of Assam. However, tea plantation has started to come up in other North Eastern States except Tripura from the beginning of the 6th Five Year Plan, Tea industry in these states is either in commercial plantation stage or trial stage. State-wise production figures of tea are maintained on calendar year basis. State-wise production of tea during 1998 and 1999 are as follows:-

(in million kgs)

States	1998	1999
Assam	460.78	414.13
Tripura	7.17	6.71
Arunachal Pradesh	0.96	0.99
Manipur	0.07	0.07
Nagaland	0.03	0.03
Meghalaya		
Mizoram		
Sikkim	0.11	0.11
West Bengal	197.70	180.21
Bihar	0.14	0.13
Uttar Pradesh	0.36	0.35
Himachal Pradesh	1.63	1.50
Orissa	0.08	0.07
Tamil Nadu	125.09	128.09
Kerala	70.62	67.79
Karnataka	5.67	5.43
All India	870.41	805.61

(Source: Tea Board) The production of tea during 2000 in the State of Assam is estimated at 455 mn. kgs as against 414 mn. kgs during 1999. In the other North Eastern States also 10% increase in yield is expected in 2000 over the previous year.
The contribution of North East Region States in the total production of tea during the year 1999 was 52.39 %.
Teas are exported mainly in blended form. In this process the origin of tea is lost at the time of blending. Hence export of tea by origin of production cannot be ascertained. The target set for exports of tea during 2000-2001 is 225 mn. kgs.